

REMARKS

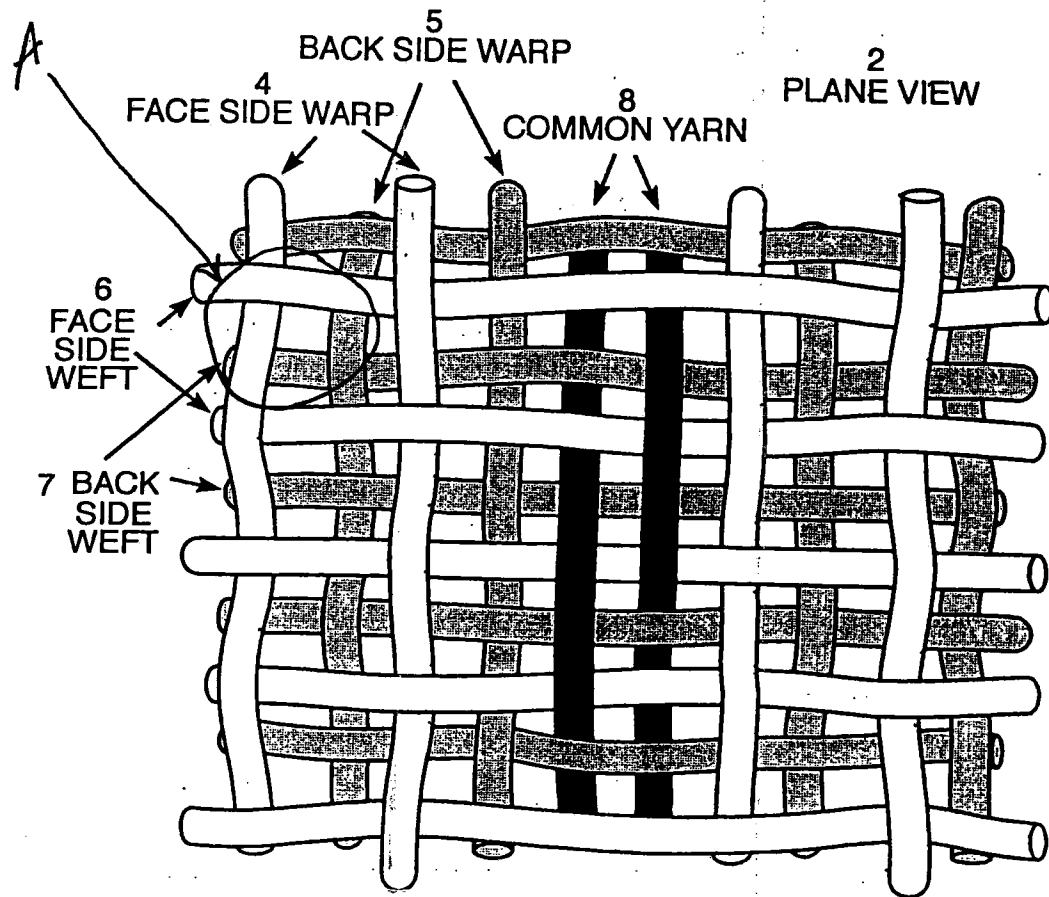
In response to the above Office Action and the rejection of the claims under § 112, first paragraph, the noted objectionable language has been deleted from claim 1.

In response to the rejection of the claims under § 112, second paragraph, claim 1 has also been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2, which has been cancelled, to more clearly claim the gap and to include in the claim that the gap has both a smaller side and a larger side to provide an antecedent basis for the claimed average length of the smaller side of the gap. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include, in addition to the subject matter of claim 2, the limitation:

a gap formed by being enclosed by a warp of the face side structure and a warp of the back side structure, said warps facing to each other, and a weft of the face side structure and a weft of the back side structure, said wefts facing to each other, has a smaller side and a larger side and has an average length of the smaller side between 0 μm and 50 μm .

This amendment is supported by page 18, lines 23-28 and page 24, lines 16-21 of the specification as well as Fig. 1 of the drawings. Applicants have again reproduced Fig. 1 (plane view) below showing a double glass cloth having a gap or opening represented by the portion A in the figure.

FIG. 1



When portion A of the double glass cloth is viewed from above in closeup, a warp of the face side structure, a warp of the back side structure, a weft of the face side structure and a weft of the back side structure, which are four strings in total, form a gap having a given shape as viewed from above. One can clearly recognize the shape as viewed from above to be a two-dimensional shape. This shape is identified in the claim as the gap. However, there are a number of warps and wefts in the back side structure, and

likewise there are a number of warps and wefts in the front side structure. Unless a particular pair of warps and a particular pair of wefts are specified, the dimension of a gap cannot be determined. Therefore, in the claim, the warps are defined as a pair facing each other, and the wefts are defined also as a pair facing each other. Due to these definitions, one can recognize a "unit" gap surrounded by closest warps of the face and back side structures and closest wefts of the face and back side structures. As a result, one can determine the dimension of the specific "unit" gap. Of course, this unit gap is not a "one and only one," but forms a class of unit gaps statistically depending on which closest warps and wefts are chosen. Therefore, in claim 1, the gap is defined as having an average dimension, i.e., an average length of the smaller side of the gap. To define the average length, the gap is said to have a smaller side and a larger side and the average length of the smaller side is between 0 μm and 50 μm .

It is believed with the amendments to claim 1, the discussion of "gap" in the specification and the above explanation with reference to Fig. 1, that the claims no longer include any new matter and are now sufficiently definite to meet the requirements of § 112, first and second paragraphs. Their withdrawal as grounds of rejection of the claims is therefore requested.

Applicants further would like to point out that claim 10 further defines the shape of the gap as being enclosed by a warp and a weft adjacent to each other of the face side structure and a warp and a weft adjacent to each other of the back side structure. Claim 10 defines the same shape of a gap in a more specific way from claim 1. In claim 1, the gap is defined with a pair of parallel warps of both cloths and a pair of parallel wefts of both cloths, whereas in claim 10 the same gap is defined with a pair of

a warp and a weft adjacent at an L-shaped corner on one cloth and a pair of a warp and a weft adjacent at an L-shaped corner on the other cloth. See portion A in Fig. 1 reproduced above.

New claim 11, directed to a double glass cloth subjected to a fiber-opening processing, claims the subject matter deleted from claim 1. Thus the claim does not include any new matter.

In the Office Action the Examiner continued to reject claims 1-4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being obvious over De La Porte in view of Scari. They were also rejected over De La Porte in view of Scari and further in view of Applicants' specification as well as De La Porte in view of Scari and Sanjana and Applicants' specification.

The combination of De La Porte and Scari may show that it is known to provide a double glass cloth having a thickness of from 10 μm to 400 μm , but the glass cloth of De La Porte has a much wider gap.

As argued in the last Reply filed March 24, 2009, the claimed smaller dimension of the gap in the double glass cloth is as narrow as 0 μm and 50 μm . As a result, the double glass cloth has the remarkably advantageous effect of high dimensional stability and reduced coefficient of thermal expansion. This is demonstrated by the results of Examples 1-7 where the gap is less than 50 μm , i.e., from 3 to 15 μm as shown in Tables 1 and 2 on pages 32 and 37 of the specification. While some of the Comparative Examples had a gap more than 50 μm , the glass cloth of them is a plain cloth and not a double glass cloth, so the results are not directly comparable with the Examples regarding this feature of the invention.

In any event, because De La Porte has a wider gap, the advantageous effect resulting from making the gap narrower would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art based on the teachings of this reference and neither Scari nor Sanjana teach or suggest this feature either.

Applicants would also like to point out with respect to De la Porte that the double glass cloth of the reference is made by holding together a face cloth and a back cloth with pile threads, which are an essential element in De La Porte. See column 1, lines 4-7 and column 1, line 67 to column 2, line 16 of the reference. In contrast, the double glass cloth of the present invention is composed only of warps and wefts and common yarns, and hence does not have or require any pile threads. When pile threads are used, another kind of warp threads must be provided as the pile threads and a particular weaving machine must be employed. This would decrease productivity of the double cloth.

Accordingly, it is not believed that amended claim 1 or claims 3, 4, 10 and 11 dependent therefrom are obvious over any of the cited combination of references. Their withdrawal as a ground of rejection of the claims and allowance of claims 1, 3, 4, 10 and 11 is requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By:  _____

Arthur s. Garrett

Reg. No. 20,338

(202) 408-4091

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